Who Should Attend?
ASAM’s 2011 Course on the State of the Art in Addiction Medicine is designed specifically for the physician or other health care professional who seeks an advanced level of knowledge about recent breakthroughs in understanding, preventing, diagnosing and treating addiction and co-occurring medical and psychiatric disorders.

Educational Objectives
The goal of ASAM’s 2011 Course on the State of the Art Course in Addiction Medicine is to present the most up-to-date information on the science of addiction and the practice of addiction medicine. Program sessions will focus on the latest research into the causes, prevention and treatment of addictive disorders, and will translate the research findings into clinically useful knowledge. The course also provides an opportunity for participants to interact with leading researchers and clinical experts from around the U.S. and abroad.

At the conclusion of the course, participants should be able to:

✔ Discuss recent research into the causes and progression of alcohol and drug use disorders and how such knowledge translates into new approaches to prevention and treatment.

✔ Identify emerging drug problems and patterns of use involving alcohol-caffeine drinks, prescription drugs, marijuana and related cannabinoids, herbal preparations, and khat.

✔ Describe emerging vaccines and other therapies for alcohol, opioid, methamphetamine, cocaine and tobacco addiction, as well as the most beneficial combinations of pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic approaches.

✔ Assess the safety and efficacy of various treatment interventions for particular patients.

ASAM Live Learning Center
Register for the ASAM State of the Art Course and receive online access to all of the recorded sessions and synched presentations FREE!
Program Topics

Each of the seven sessions of the course is organized around a specific area of scientific knowledge. Within each session, an expert faculty will provide concentrated reviews of recent scientific advances. In the discussion period that concludes each session, audience and faculty will jointly consider how to synthesize the research findings to improve clinical practice and patient care. Sessions will focus on:

✔ Session 1. Genetics: Shaping Our Understanding of Addiction and Its Treatment: The epigenetic landscape of addiction; Gene X disease and orbitofrontal gray matter in cocaine addiction; Pharmacogenetic approaches to alcohol dependence; Genetic contributions to relapse risk.

✔ Session 2. Use and Abuse of Prescription Opioids: Efficacy of long-term opioids to treat chronic pain; Injury, pain, and prescription drug abuse; Abuse-deterrent and tamper-resistant opioid formulations; FDA’s REMS initiative, the pending Rockefeller legislation, and other new approaches to reducing opioid misuse and abuse.

✔ Session 3. Clinical Challenges in Addiction Medicine: Marijuana: The role of endocannabinoids in marijuana abuse and dependence; Use of “medical marijuana” by patients being treated for addiction and other disorders; Does use of cannabis increase the risk or speed the onset of psychosis? “Medical marijuana” and driving risk.

✔ Session 4. New Therapeutic Strategies for Co-Occurring Disorders: Effect of mild traumatic brain injury on the development of substance use disorders; Epidemiologic links between drug use and HIV epidemics; Integrating treatments for opioid addiction and HIV; Neuropsychiatric complications of hepatitis and HIV infections in addicts and how to manage the health consequences.

✔ Session 5. Emerging Drugs of Abuse: A Global Perspective: Emerging drugs and patterns of abuse; Alcohol-caffeine combinations, other new patterns of alcohol use, and prevention of underage drinking; Cannabis analogs, “bath salts,” spice, salvia, herbs, and vaporizers; Khat and other international imports—special problems in specific populations.

✔ Session 6. Challenges in Medical Education: Integrating Addiction-Related Competencies into Physician Training and Practice: Health care reform and its impact on medical education in addiction; Progress in developing addiction fellowships; Training all physicians to screen and intervene for addiction; SBIRT and its lessons for facilitating adoption of evidence-based practices; E-learning and other new tools and techniques for continuing medical education.

✔ Session 7. Addiction Treatment: New Approaches to Old Problems: Development of a human monoclonal antibody to treat cocaine addiction; Treatment of nicotine and tobacco dependence—therapeutic options and pipeline developments; Probuphine and other agents to treat prescription drug addiction; Depot naltrexone to treat opiate addiction; Oral naltrexone to treat amphetamine addiction.

Keynote Speakers

The leaders of the principal Federal agencies involved in addiction research, prevention, treatment, and policy have been invited to deliver keynote addresses outlining their agencies’ current research portfolios and plans for future research concentrations and other initiatives. The State of the Art Course is one of the few venues to bring these luminaries together in a single event.

ASAM is honored to have CSAT Director H. Westley Clark, M.D., J.D., M.P.H., CAS, FASAM, chair the 2011 State of the Art Course. Dr. Clark also will deliver a keynote address on the future of addiction treatment.

Other agency directors who have been invited to speak include:

- Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D., Director, National Institutes of Health. Dr. Collins is internationally known for his leadership of the Human Genome Project and has been described as “one of the most accomplished scientists of our time.”
- R. Gil Kerlikowske, Director, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy
- Nora D. Volkow, M.D., Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse
- Kenneth R. Warren, Ph.D., Acting Director, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

Planning Committee

H. Westley Clark, M.D., J.D., M.P.H., CAS, FASAM (Course Chair)
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Bonnie B. Wilford, M.S. (Course Director)